#### OHIO'S COMPRACHICO.

Edward Booker, the Colored Fugitive, Arrested and Held for Child-Stealing.

TWO STORIES OF THE ABDUCTION.

Martin Havens, the Stolen Boy, Says the Negro Coaxed Him Away and Deceived Him.

Booker Alleges Martin Begged to Go With Him, Wishing to Run Away from His Adopted Parents.

#### BOOKER'S BAD CHARACTER.

Testimony Before the Committing Magistrate.

> [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD. ] COLUMBUS, Oblo, April 13, 1877.

Great excitement was caused here to-day by the re ceipt of a telegram from the City Marshal of London, Onto, stating that he had arrested Edward Booker, the colored man who stole Martin Havens from his father's house, in Delaware county, last Sunday, and that the child was "all right." Special officers at once left for London and returned to this city on a late train tomight, with the objects of their search. Your correspondent met the party, and interviewed both Booker and the boy at the police station. The boy is a fine specimen of a farmer's boy and quite large for his age. He is plain spoken, and tells his story with enildlike simplicity. He is dressed in a thin suit of blue clothes, which be had when he left home.

His story is as follows:—'On last Sunday morning Booker came up to our house, as he often did, about nine o'clock, and asked mo to take a walk with him. I asked him where he was going, and he said 'just alome to the orchard.' I went with him, and we kept on walking for some time, and I then asked him where he was going. He told me to come on and he would take care on me, but that he didn't want to be seen. I said I was tired and wanted to go go back home, but Booker wouldn't let me. I was cold, too, lor I only had on this suit, but Booker made me walk awdul fast, and I got warm. We walked down the river bank, and crossed over nive bridges until we got to North Columbus, we went right off to Mrs. Gicason's, Booker's sister, where we slept that night. Booker told me not to talk to anabody, but if they asked me who I was to tell thom I was his boy. He also told me to say I had run away because Mr. Havens whipped me so much. Well, during Monday and Tuesday we stayed in Columbus, and Booker took me to several saloons, where we played cards and drank beer. Tuesday night we slept at a colored man's, named Butler, a few miles west of Columbus, and be was dead to was a story of the saked all the way on the turnpike, and I got awful tired. Booker didn't treat me bad, and we had lots to eat. We got it from people along the road. At one place where we stopped to eat I started to run away whe he here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away whe here we stopped to eat I started to run away where we stopped to eat I started to run away to the was descent to the was descent to the was descent to the was descent to the same and to I went to all THE BOY'S STORY.

Weil, we got to London to-day, and there a policeman came up, and, after taking off my hat and looking at this big scar on my foretead, no took us both to jail. I was real scared, for I disn't know what was going to be done with me and Booker. I used to get whipped sometimes, but I disn't want to run away from home, and Booker told me to say that I run away because Mrs. Havens wapped me so much. I tell you if I get home I won't run away."

The boy seems very tired, and while talking kept glancing timinally toward the next room, where Booker was confined. He is evidently airtai of offending his abductor. He was taken to a hotel to-night, and will be returned to his pareats to-morrow, where a warm welcome awaits him.

THE KINNAPPER'S STORY.

Booker was next interviewed. He was found lying on a bench in his cell, sleeping so soundly that it required several cais of his name to arouse him. He finally got up, and, coming to the front of the cell, placed his lace against the grated door and stared stoidily at his disturbers. He is not a vicious looking man, and was plannly but decently dressed. He sysare a little small and sinister looking, and his lower Bp droops heavily, but otherwise there is nothing unsual about his appearance. He talks quite delibman, and was plainly but decently dressed. His eyes are a little smail and sinister looking, and his lower lip droops heavily, but otherwise there is nothing unusual about his appearance. He talks quite deliberately and nees good language, and appeared surprised that any one should su-peat that he had stolen the child or expected to harm him. When asked to tell his side of the story and why, he took the child ne said:—"Why did I steat the boy? You see, me and my wife had been working for Ravens for some time and I got well acquainted with and taked Wilhe first rate. He was a good boy, but Mrs. Havens didn't treat him right. I heard him tell Havens that if Mrs. Ravens didn't stop whipping him he would run away, and he often said he would leave anyhow when he got a couple of years older. Well, you see, I was going to leave flavens to look for another job for myself and wife and I went up to Havens' house on Sunday. Willie saw me there and insisted on going away with me, and so I let him come along; but, bless you, I didn't expect to hurt him, and I woolan't have thought of hurting him." When asked if he did not take the boy to obtain a reward. Booker replicat—"Why, certainly not. I shouldn't have thought of hurting him." Shouldn't have thought of let him go with me that I didn't like to leave him there to be abused. Why, one morning I saw Mrs. Havens bang him about for not getting on his boots, when the truth was he couldn't get them on, they were so wet." When asked where he was going when arrested, Booker said:—"Well, I was going to keep on until I found work, and I expected to take care of the boy as best I could, but I want you to understood that that boy was not torced away from his home."

The special constable from Delaware county who

How the arrest was made.

The special constable from Delaware county who went to London to return Booker and his charge to this point was also interviewed. He said the Marshai of London had just read the story of the abduction, and was on the way to his office whon Booker and the boy came along. Seeing the white boy with the colored man attracted his attention. Going up to the boy he saw the scar on his forehead, and asked Booker whose boy that was. Booker at first said it was "a boy who was along with him."

Booker will be taken to-morrow to Delaware county for presenting trial. The feeling here is very bitter HOW THE ARREST WAS MADE.

Booker will be taken to-morrow to Delaware county for presiminary trial. The teeining here is very bitter against him, and, although ne is in the midst of an educated commenty, he may, unless carefully guarded, be foughly treated. His wise was taken to Orange Station, Delaware county, to-day, where she find a preliminary examination. Over one lundred persons were present, and various threats against her his were made. The previous bad character of hour Booker and his wife are much against them. Mr. Havens was telegraphed to-might that his boy would be restored to him to-morrow. He is an old man and has been nearly distracted by his loss for several days, which have been spent in riding all over the country in search of the missing boy.

## EXAMINATION AND COMMITMENT OF BOOKER.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 14, 1877. The negro Edward Stocker, the abductor of Martin Havens, and the boy were taken to Fint Station this depot by a small crowd of people, who from time to time breathed anything but kind wishes for Booker. As the curious crowd peered at him Booker sat like a stolld looker on, and occasionally toyed with his heavy handcuffs. He evidently does not appreciate the extent of his wrong doing or else is naturally sluggish in temperament. Just before the train left Columbus a squad of Irish ratiroad hands came into the car, and after gazing on Booker as if he were a wild beast gave him the benefit of their opinion of him, which was in effect that if they had their way no money would be wasted on his trial.

At Plint station a small party of friends were wait-

ing, and as soon as young Havens stepped upon the platform he was seized by his adopted mother with a wild scream of delight and tears of emotion, "My God, my God, my baby is back safe again!" she exchimed, and he was hugged and kissed many times, and was only yielded up to allow similar proceedings to be gone through with by his mater, who was also present. The boy is evidently not of an affectionate disposition, for while appearing and to be among friends again be allowed rather than participated in the general rejoicing that the lost was bond. Old Mr. Harens, a robust, pain looking farmer of sixty-tve, showed by his manner ne was much affected, but he simply took the child's hand firmly to his and walked up and down the platform. He has been roung ever since Monday, and is protty well broken down; but the general rejoicing that the lost was bound.

his manner of meeting the child and his appearance showed plainly his affection for his adopted

The cries of rejoicing of the mother attracted con-siderable attention, and as the train pulled out from the depot, leaving the boy clasped in his mother's arms, every window of the cars was occupied by heads of sympathetic passengers who were familiar with the story of the child's abduction

THE EXAMINATION. The officers and the boy's friends proceeded with the prisoner to the nearest magistrate's house, Squire Carpenter, where a large number of stalwart farmers were already in waiting. It was a crowd whose appearance was not favorable to the men who had been guitty of the crime of kidnapping, but if they felt any special bitterness it was kept hidden. A cosey front sitting room, where lay a little clifd sick with pneumonia, was made to do duty as a court room, and into this a motiety crowd assembled. Booker's wife, who was under arrest for completty in the abduction, was there in charge of a constable. She is a tall, handsome, yellow woman, and was neatly dressed. Her face lighted up when her husband was brought in, and glances were exchanged between them, but seeing nandculfs on Booker she assumed a spiteful expression, and glared fiercely at all who looked at her. When the trial was about to commence she was told to go into the next room. She jumped up quickly and said, "Yes, let me go anywhere to get away from these people's starcs." The sick child of the Justice from her couch expressed a desire to see what handculfs were like, and Booker was told to hold up his arms so she could see them, which he did. were already in waiting. It was a crowd whose appear

them, which he did.

Silas Havens, adopted father of the stolen boy, was called as the first whitess. In a quaint, farmerlike way he told how Booker had come to his house some time in February, and was given work on the farm. After working four or five days Booker's wife also came to the farm and was given work as a house servant for her board. About the 1st of April Booker left and went to work for neighbors. While working at Havens' great friendship sprang up between Booker and the boy, and they were together frequently. The boy was in his ninth year and was an orphan. They had adopted him.

and the boy, and they were together frequently. They had adopted him.

Mrs. Havens was next called, and gave her testimony in a much less forgiving spirit than her husband but with minitely more glibness. She testilled that on last Sunday morning the boy came into the house and said Booker and his wife were at the door. Mrs. Booker, or, as she is known in Delaware county, Mrs. Stewart, came in, and in a moment the boy went out and said on the horse block with Booker. Some time after when she looked out at the door both boy and man were gone. In answer to a question, as to whether she had ever seen any special intimacy between the boy and Booker, she replied that the boy seemed very lond of Booker, she replied that the boy seemed very lond of Booker, and that after ne left their house the boy was always running over to where Booker was working. She threatened to whip him if he didn't stay away from Booker. Booker was now given a chance to ask Mrs. Havens questions, but she gave him such spiteful answers that he soon dessted. Booker insisted that the boy had only come over to see him once after he left Havens house. Mrs. Havens the soon dessted. Booker insisted that the boy had only come over to see him once after he left Havens house. Mrs. Havens the should say the she gave booker a biast in shrewish style, and wound up by saying "I don't want no mean nigger to steal my child, and I ought to have whipped the boy long ago before letting him go with you at all. Don't talk to me, sir."

Booker's wife was then called, and asked what her

Mrs. Booker was next put on trial, but no testimony tending to prove she was a party to her husband's conduct, she was discharged. Alter dividing a plug of tobacowith her husband she remarked, "Well, goodby, Ed; I'm going down to Columbus to earn some money and don't you fret; I'd see you in a few weeks." She then took the road for Columbus—twelve miles away—declaring she would waik there by night. Excellent order was maintained before and after the trial, but one rash man might have changed the quiet party into a mob without great labor had he so dealred.

A BAD CHARACTER.

Booker has not a bad face. He is simply a stolid looking begro; but the police here say his innocent look is all assumed. His sister here says he is a very dangerous man, and he stole his brother's child in Virginia some years ago, and held it until it was taken away by the police. She also says sem years ago his mother came from Virginia and lived with her for a time, but in some way Booker found she had some money. He persuaded her to go out with

a time, but in some way Booker found she had some money. He persuaded her to go but with him, and she never returned. Some weeks later her dead body was found under a pile of brushes east of this city. She does not say directly she thinks Booker murdered her for her money, but such inter-ence can readily be drawn from her talk.

ence can readily be drawn from her talk.

The nov's Good hour.

Interviews with young Havens' only sister, his uncle
and several negabors all tend to prove he has an excellent home with his parents by adoption and was well
treated, and that he would not have left home unless
coaxed away by Booker, or was of an ungrateful dispo-

## A JUSTICE IMPUGNED.

THE EFFORT TO REMOVE A LOCAL MAGISTRATE AT MOUNT VERNON-TESTIMONY REGARDING JUDICIAL IMPROPRIETIES.

The case of Robert W. Edmonds, a justice of the peace at Mount Vernon, Westenester county, against whom charges of malfeasance in office, together with a petition praying for his removal, have been presented in the Supreme Court, is now occupying a large share of public attention in the village named. Another hearing before County Judge Gifford, the referee appointed to take testimony in the matter took place yesterday before a large and highly inter-

ested assemblage.

Preparatory to the taking of testimony, William Bourke Cockran, counsel for the respondent, moved, in view of a previous decision of the referee, that ne evidence relating to charges other than those specified in the petition be received without the counsel for the petitioners first giving the respondent two weeks' notice of their intention to offer such testimony. In support of his motion counsel made

ent two weeks' notice of their intention to offer such testimony. In support of his motion counsel made an exhaustive argument, citing precedents from the records of cases tried in England as ar back as the thirteenth century down to the trial of Warren Hastings, and emphasizing his remarks by quotations from the impeachment of the late President Andrew Joinson, and that of Judge George G. Barnard. The motion was denied nowwer by the reteree.

A number of witnesses were called on the part of the petitioners for the purpose of proving that they had been complainants in cases before Justice Edmonds where no trials took place, their testimony being intended to support one of the allegations against the respondent that he had made charges in his bills against the town and county for services never performed. As a rule nearly all of these witnesses failed considerably on their cross-examination.

D. niel Lewis, a reporter for one of the local newspapers, testified that in August fast he was in Justice Edmands' court, at about eight o'clock in the evening, when the case of Mrs. Rosenthal vs. Crossley and others was pending; that he saw the respondent alight from a train in a state of intoxication; that he (Edmonds) passed into the court room and staggered against the sine of the benon as he attempted to take his seat; that the respondent called the court to order and announced his readiness to give his decision in the case referred to. This decision, the witness aid, he read in a maudim, thick voice, making his utherances almost industible, and immediately activated in a dispuse with a constaide, who claimed \$15 for his services in the case, Edmonds said he was a milliouncare and had barrels of money. On cross-eramination, the witness acknowledged that he was the reporter and principal manager of one of the village newspapers, of which the serior connect for the petitioners was editor. He admitted having reported the law case mentioned for his paper, but did not know whether and report contained any alignon to the al

## DASTARDLY OUTRAGE.

As car No. 131 of the Seventh avenue line was passsecond streets last night, a pistol ball whizzed through one of the windows, cutting a round hole in the glass. Fortubately, no one was burt, but Mr George Gillis,

#### CREEDMOOR.

OPENING OF THE RIPLE SEASON-THE BEMING-TON GOLD PRIZE CONTEST.

The rife season commenced yesterday at Creedmoor, and the first match came off under favorable circumstances, all things considered. Although the day was rather raw and windy the weather could not be ca bad for sporting purposes, and it was expected that much better scoring would have marked the opening match than that which is credited to yesterday's practice. The conditions of the atmosphere and of the light were pretty good. The temperature was of moderate coolness and the air dry. The result of these combinations was that mark-men found themselves obliged to allow greater elevations on the tangent scales of their weapons than had been found necessary or a nearly corresponding period last year. The match shot was a new one, and its conditions were, therefore, unfamiliar to the distinguished riflemen who participated in it, bence it is not surprising to find the scores much lower than is usually the case at Creedmoor when the same ranges are shot over. One reason given for the poorness of the record was that the ceive how this could be the case, seeing that all the cartridges contained the same weight of powder of a of an indifferent grade, did not, upon inflammation, develop a sufficient quantity of clastic fluid in carry the bullet up to its mark. But this could only happen in case of the powder being reatoved or made up or badly managamated ingredients; as, for example, if the nitre contained impurities or happened to be defectively crystallized, the sulphur to contain foreign earths, or the charcoal to be pit-burned instead of being cylinuer made. The projecties used, too, were swedged cylindro-conoidal balls, whose centre of gravity coincided with the centre of figure, and, therefore, leaving the bore of a well-rifled gun, they should travel in their trajectory line without any appreciable deviation from the right path. For these reasons it would seem fairer to attribute the poor shooting of yesterday to the rustiness of the marksmen than to defective cartridges. of an indifferent grade, did not, upon inflammation

to attribute the poor shooting of yesterday to the rustiness of the marksmen than to defective cartridges.

CONDITIONS OF THE MATCH.

The conditions of the match were:—Open to all comers; weapon, any Remington breech-loading rillo within the rules of the National Rille Association; to be loaded at the breech with cartridges tryinshed from the factory, which will be issued by the range superintensent to each competitor at the firing points in scaled packages; distances 900 and 1,000 yards; twenty rounds at each range; position, any without artificial reat; the highest aggregate score in each competition to win; ties to be decided according to the rules, no coaching or spotting allowed, nor interchange of information between the competitors; no previous practice permitted on the day of the match; no sighting shous; entrance fee, \$2. The prize (\$300 in gold) must be won three times—not necessarily consecutively—before becoming the property of the winner. One-half of the entrance money to be divided, two-thirds of this being for the highest score and one-third for the second best man. No match to come off with a less number that under nortes. Yesterday there were twelve ontries, and Mr. Isaac L. Alen, of Brooklyn, carried off the first monors on a score of 159 points out of a possible 200; Mr. Thomas Lamb, who came in second best, made an equal number of points with the winner, beating him one at the first range and falling one behind at the second, which latter circumstance determined the ontext in favor of Mr. Allen. The firing commenced before the 900 yards butts at colven o'clock, and the match was closed on the 1,000 range by two.

THE ECORES.

Fault.

1,000 ..... 3000300043503523522 Retired.
THE AMATEUR CLUB CONTESTS.

Next Tuesday the long range marksmen of the Amateur Club will commence their series of contests for the purpose of choosing a sentor and a juntor rille team whose duty it will be to shoot in all matches where the club may be concerned, and to contest for the supremacy between the two teams themselves. It is thought that the result of these competitions will be to put the club in a condition to meet any silversary, however formidable, who may throw down the gauntiet.

## BASEBALL.

THE CHELSEAS' OPENING GAME-A PICKED NINE THAT WERE PLUCKED.

The champion Chelseas, of Brooklyn, played their opening game yesterday at the Capitoline Ground with a picked nine. The Chelseas were short the services of Rule and Hayes, two of their best men. The vacancles were well filled, however, by Deguan, of the Amitys, and Whearty, an excellent local player. Degnan pitched in the first five linnings, Dunne playing at left and Whearty at first. Dunne came in to pitch in the sixth inning, and his many deliveries puzzled the field nine considerably. The Choiseas played a strong fielding game as well as batting. The following is the score in full:— THE SCORE.

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Time of game—Two hours and fifteen minutes. Umpire—Mr. Ackerman, of the Middletown club.

## NEWARK AQUATICS.

The Passuic River Rowing Association have decided to hold their annual regatta on June 19, the number of races to be four-a single scull, pair-our gig, fouroared shell and a six-oared gig race. The four-oared race is to be one and a hall miles and return, the others one and a half miles straightaway. All the Passaic clubs give promise of making a floer display on the river this coming season than on any preceding one.

## A BOY'S ADVENTURE.

The peraccious effect of dime novel literature was illustrated in this city yesterday by the discovery of a lad of respectable parentage, who left a good home in Albany four years ago to seek his fortune in the metropoils. The youth's name is william fampson, and his age fourteen years. His lather, a lawyer of some prominence in Albany, died recently, leaving considerable property, to which the missing boy was an heir. This caused the relatives to apply to Superintendent Wailing to exert his efforts to find him. Detective Adams, who was intrusted with the case, began his search among the situms of New York, and after considering the found him in the Newsbors! Joseph or other boys of Albany started for this city, their four other boys of Albany started for this city, their minds being strongly impressed with the happiness of metropolitan life as depicted in the dime novels, of which they were constant readers. Arrived in New York, they took to blacking boots and selling newspapers. His companions soon repented and returned home; but he, afraid to meet his lather, remained in New York. Sometimes he carned thirty cents a day, on which occasions he was enabled to inoutge in the luxury of a bed; but the greater part of the time friendly coal boxes and alleyways furnished him with ledgings. The culture of his former associations soon wore off and he became a thorough street Arab.

Arab.
Superintendent Walling yesterday communicated with the boy's relatives, and he will be sent nome on Monday. In the meantime he is cared for at the Cen-

## THE NEW BERGEN TUNNEL.

The opening of the new Delaware, Lackswanna and Western Railroad tunnel under Bergen Hill is set down for the 25th inst, the birthday of Moses Taylor, who has been most energetic in siding the great enterwho has been most energetic in aiding the great enterprise. The occasion will be a remarkable one in the
history of radroad improvements. Two thousand invitations have been issued. Mr. Samuel Sloan, president of the road, will pass through the tuned on the
pres locomotive, and a sumpinuous banquet will be provided for the friends and guests of the company. Mr.
John McAndrew, the contractor, has arranged for a
sufficient number of locomotives and cars on the occasion. ON 'CHANGE.

COAL STOCKS AND THE RUMORS CONCERNING THEM-BOCK ISLAND BONDS-THE KENNEDY BUSPENSION-PRODUCE EXCHANGE AND THE WAR RUMORS.

The rumor mania seems to be rampant about this time. A low days ago the story went that one or two consequence the speculators got a profitable out of the downward movement of the stock. Then the flying rumors were checked, rewards were offered for the conviction of those who started them, and the statement went abroad that the roads assatled were in as healthy a condition as may be desired. The rumors, it was authoritatively asserted, were wholly without foundation. Then the price of stocks improved and it was hoped the last had If the circulators of false news were eager for anothe sensation it was thought they would turn their attention in some other direction. But no; the fever ran in the other extreme, and for a while yesterday report ha it that the price of coal was to be sent up, and that the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company intended not to sell any coal month and thus help the upward movement. Then it was also said that "if" the Delaware and Lackawanna Company so concluded "it was not at all im robable that the Pennsylvania and Delaware and Hudson companies would follow suit," Now it so

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Wostern Railroad Com-pany will advertise, on Monday, the sale of 100,000 tons of coal on Wednesday, 25th inst.

coal on Wednesday, 25th inst.

It is not likely to be so readily forgotton, as the rumor committee must think that the recent "combination" is like a pool in which individual interests are superior to the common interest. There is no bond of union but sellisiness, and the time may come any moment when one of the parties to the compact will good authority that at least two of the parties to the late agreement were not at all satisfied with the proposils to which the companies were reported to have agreed. It is not considered likely that they have changed their minds since then.

HIR KENNEDY SUSPENSION.

posals to which the companies were reported to have agreed. It is not considered likely that they have changed their minus since then.

THE KENNEDY SUSPENSION.

The report went abroad yesterday that the Messrs. Kennedy, who suspended in the panie a few days ago, were going to resume at once and had commenced payments. Inquiry at their office discovered that such was not the case, however. The time of their resumption was not yet at hand. No complaint has been prepared yet in the sut against their customers, who were long of Northwest. The names of the defendants in the summons in this action are as ions. So were long of Northwest. The names of the defendants in the summons in this action are as ions. Roswell P. Flower, A. B. Baylis, A. G. Curtin, Martin L. Sykes, Jr.; Albert Keep, Hervey H. Porter, J. H. How, John R. Gariand, Ten Hare, W. H. Ferry, John F. Tracy and A. G. Daiman. Some of these centiemen yesterday demed that any pool was formed, though admitting that they had bought some of the book through Messrs. Kennedy, Whatover interest they had was one in which they were only concerned as individuals. Mr. W. L. Kennedy declined to say anything about the suit, resting with the statement that the matter was altogether in the hands of his lawyers, Messrs. Robinson & Scribner. At the office of these gentlemen a Height paporter was informed that before the extent of individual obligations could be determined a close examination of the correspondence and accounts of the parties defendant would be necessary, and such has not yet been made. The complaint in the case must be filed within twenty days, unless an extension of time be obtained.

be filed within twenty days, unless an extension of time be obtained.

War rumors were made the basis of considerable speculation in the Produce Exchange yesterday. The latest European news was accepted there as an infallible indication of coming trouble, which must necessarily send up the prices of breatstuffs. The anticipations of the holders of grain, flour, &c., are such, however, as to make transactions lew at the advances sought. Their waiting ambition o'erleaps itself to that extent and if war should not come as soon as it is expected their desire for large realizations may land them high and dry. Ocean freights, too, are reported unsettled in expectation of the coming fray, the seeming desire being to avoid engagements for the future lest they should prove then a burden.

ROCK ISLAND'S BONDS.

Bids for the new six per cent bonds of the Rock Island coad were opened yesterday, the amount to be subscribed for being some \$8,000,000. It was announced at the office in the alternoon that of this amount \$1,500,000 had been subscribed for at 100 and upward.

## FOREST FIRES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD. ] KINGSTON, April 14, 1877.

The recent dry weather has made the bottoms of the woods in this vicinity like tinder. Several large fires have been raging in the woods lying north of this city, the most destructive being one that burned over about ten miles square of the woods west of the Uister and Delaware Ratiroad track, below Stony Hollow, about six miles northwest of this city. This fire was started, it is supposed, by sparks from a locomotive on the railroad. and the wind blowing a gale, as it has for several days and the wind blowing agas, as the last of sector days past, the fire rapidly spread through the woods toward the village of Huriey. So fierce was the wind that as times it actually flitted large pieces of the burning bottom high in the air, carrying them a considerable distance and dropping them like shells, to scatter desiruction around. In the night the fires scatter destruction around. In the night the fires could be seen for miles, the red glare shining on the clouds, whence it was reflected so strangely on the window panes in the upper part of the city that many sleepers awoke with the impression that a conflagration was close at hand.

DESTRUCTION OF A DWELLING.

During the progress of the fire it can over a settlement called Gallows Hill, and one dwelling, owned by the Ulster County Savings Institution and occupied by George Purdy and his family, was consumed. So rapidly did it burn that not a thing could be saved, the family having escaped with the garments they wore, and they had to run at the top of their speed to get beyond reach of the flames. Several other buildings were on fire, but the men of the place, to the number of about fifty, labored herocally, and succeeded in Saving them with comparatively little damage. tie damage. PIGHTING THE PIRE.

A large area of valuable wood and 300 or more acres in extent was ravel by judicious backfiring. The total damage done, nowever, was great, and cannot yet be estimated. A vast amount of young and growing timber has been destroyed, besides the house mentioned and personal property. The fire is still raging in the woods, and is working toward Huriey. There are miles of valuable woodland between the present location of the fire and opea territory at Huriey, and unless there comes rain to extinguish the fire the damage will be enormous.

## LONG ISLAND FOREST FIRES.

With every recurring spring come forest and plain fires on Long Island more or less destructive in their results. The accumulation of dried leaves and underbrush along the lences and in the thickets give readily food for the flames, which are sometimes tanned by the fresh winds into a fury, which can only be controlled, with great difficulty, by the united efforts of the residents of endangered neighborhoods. The fires most difficult to control are those occurring in the pine-wood regions. The pine leaves and comes frequently accumulate to the depth of several inches, and being strongly impregnated with turpentine and pitch, not only add ferceness to the flames, but retain the fire for a long time, and throw out an intense heat, making near approach impossible. Sometimes these fires occur from sparks of focuments, but more frequently from the careless burning of brush on cleared lands.

A number have already occurred this season, and some are still burning, though the destrection of property thus far has been much less than in some previous years. The most serious one has been raging for the past any or two in the pineries, in the vicinity of Deer Park, between the Long Island and Southern Italized tracks, north and south, and the villages of Balyion and Islip, east and west. The northerly wind arrives clouds of dense, black smoke southward, and the roaming of the lames can be heard for a long distance. The timber here-bouts is generally about thall grown, and the region is mostly innabited by Charcosi burners. the residents of endangered neighborhoods. The fires

distance. The timber here-bouls is generally about hall grown, and the region is mostly inhabited by charcost burders.

On Friday there was quite an extensive fire between South Oyster Bay and Ridgewood, along 'the hide of the Southern Raitrond, endangering much more valuable timber, as well as farm dweinings, outlouses and tences. The larmers of the neighborhood turned out in force, however, and succeeded in checking the progress of the flames before much damage was done. Only a few hights ago a fire was discovered in the brush near Woodbury, on the line of the Long Island Raitroad, consuming lences and doing other damage; and but for the prompt and strendous efforts of the neighbors a number of larm houses would have been laid in ruins. About the same time the house of sir. Rontrack narrowly escaped destruction. Sparks from the smokestack of a locomotive ignited some fall grass on his farm, and a considerable portion of his fences was destroyed. During the latter part of the week a large fire was raging in the woods northeast of Patchogue, burning over a large tract of valuable woodland.

On the north side, a fire, said to have been caused by sparks from a locomotive, was started early in the week in the woods of Mr. Duncan McKean, of Huntington, and fifty acres were burned over before the flames were extinguished, and for several days past a fire has been in progress among the wooded nills in the northerly part of Jamanca township, between Jamaica village and Richmond Hill. It would be difficult to estimate the aggregate of damage, but it must be considerable.

## FIRE IN TWENTY-SECOND STREET.

A fire occurred yesterday in the four story brown stone building No. 461 West Twenty-record street, occupied by Mrs. J. B. Doscano. The furniture was damaged to the extent of \$1,000, the building to about the same amount.

THE PROPOSED SOLDIERS' HOME. NEW YORK, April 14, 1877.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-If great names mean anything there ought to be a great confidence in the object of the meeting in the Academy of Music on the 19th, to solicit subscriptions for a New York State Soldiers' Home. But when a project appeals to patriotic feeling, and has a fine sound in it, great cames are easily secured, and for one we have learned by experience to pay very little

respect to their snap judgment.

The proposed "Soldiers' Home" is required to save 480 "battle worn volunteers" from the county poor houses, where they are "herded with tramps and thieves." How about herding the victims of the gen eral misfortunes of society with these tramps and thieves? Is it only soldiers—who certainly had a good deal of such society, and have since formed a thus delicately considered? Certainly the first duty of the public is to look into these county poorhouses and is thus thrown upon them; for they concern a much larger class of victims of national misfortune than our valided is a larger and more perilous one than any battle of muskets and cannon; and why its victims are to be herded with tramps and thieves any more ruthlessly than the soldiers we do not yet fully under-

lessly than the soldiers we do not yet fully understand. We do not suppose the county poorhouses are residences people with a choice would principles of moral or political economy; but we do suppose them to be about as free from tramps and toreves as, say, the streets of New York and the usual society of common soldiers who go where they please. Moreover, we think the poorhouse society preferable on account of its containing women and children, and a variety to any society we have ever seen, or which is likely to be found, in a soldier's home.

After tweive years, to go to work and pick out soldiers who did not earn a position, as a class, and make them the objects of a special institutional charity, is to perform not only a gratuitous mischief to the morals of society, but smacks very much of a job, or of the self-giorifying of the soldier class, which we do not need to add to in America. The predifection for mixing soldiering and politics has done us mischief enough. State soldiers' homes to perpetuate the local pride of States in a federal war are themselves secessional. The national homes are the proper places for soldiers from all the separate States, who are unwise enough to leave their own kindred and neighborhood, or whose necessites force them to it. The proper way to take care of invalid soldiers surviving a war is by pensions only, leaving them "unherded," but in private homes. Nine-tenths of the sufferers now to be cared for would probably be in the poorhouse anyway, as the war alone kept thousands from oring in jail, or in the poorhouse, while it insted, being an ensier carefer and better jailer for the idle and thriftiess, who will not work unless compelled to.

Here is a scheme for begging \$100,000—which will heave to \$200.000 to rever the politics has desired to the soldiers abuilding to accompediate.

while it instea, being an easier career and cover unless for the idle and thriftiess, who will not work unless compelled to.

Here is a scheme for begging \$100,000—which will have to be \$200,000—to erect a building to necommodate the 1,500 of New York's brave sons now in national homes, who have a right to come bome and claim our care, besides the 480—who may be easily twice as many—in the county poorhouses. Everybody knows that half a million of dollars won't erect and pay for the buildings required by this scheme if logically carried out. But that is a drop in the bucket. To support only 450 of them, at New Jersey Home rates, \$50,000 annually must be supplied by the State, and everybody that knows anything about such institutions knows that it would probably be twice that sum at first, and in the end ten times. But the parfolic tide will probably launch us into this scheme in spite of common sense, political economy and all experionce. Disbelieving in it wholly we simply enter what we presume will be an unavaling protest. We experience. Disbelieving in it wholly we simply enter what we presume will be an unavailing protest. We think it a poor plan for the soldiers themselves, as they are never content in soldiers? homes; a poor plan for the community, as it threatens to increase taxes already intoleroble; a poor plan for the country, as it taxes the national obligation out of the hands of the federal government and so weakens the historic memories of the war. It is a poor plan for its devisers who ten years hence will eat the fruit of missken doings, or for the venerable figure fronts in the business. They have seemingly never given the matter any serious consideration, lost in their sympathy with its excellently sounding title. But why struggle with the sentimentality that spoils all American benificance and will ultimately impoverish us as much in morais as in pocket if we do not correct or resist it? H. W. B.

#### BEST TIME ON RECORD.

EXTRAORDINARY RUN OF THE WHITE STAR STEAMSHIP GERMANIC-SHE CROSSES THE OCEAN IN SEVEN DAYS, ELEVEN HOURS AND THIRTY-SEVEN MINUTES.

The steamship Germanic, of the White Star line, Charles W. Kennedy, commander, arrived at this port on Friday evening, after the unprecedented run of seven days, eleven bours and thirty-seven minutes across the Atlantic from Queenstown. This is the quickest ocean run on record, beating the time of the City of Berlin, of the Inman line, Captain James Kon-

City of Berlin, of the Inman line, Captain James Kennedy, in September, 1875 (seven days, eighteen hours, two innutes), by about six and a haif hours.

Before the City of Berlin mide this, at the time, quickest run on record, the Germanic, in July, 1875, had carried the champion pennant, having made the run in 7 days, 23 hours and 7 minutes, or five hours and five minutes longer than the City of Berlin.

It will be seen by a glance at the log of the Germanic that she made an average run of some 378 knots per day, or 15% knots per hour, almost the average speed of steamers on our placed interior rivers. On three soveral days she made over 400 miles per day, while the best time of the City of Berlin was 281 miles in a single day. Notwithstanding this unparalleled run, Captain Kennedy says he could have made it three hours quicker. He has to come a long way round to the southward in says he could have made it three hours quicker. He had to come a long way round to the southward in order to avoid the ice, which occasioned considerable delay. It should also be remembered that the commanders of this line are limited to the burning of a certain quantity of coal per diem. By the addition of

## OUR RUSSIAN VISITORS.

At ten o'clock yesterday morning Mr. Lloyd Aspinwail went on board the Russian flagship Svet-lana to call on Captain the Grand Duke Alexis, and was received by the latter in his cabin on the quarter deck After a short stay he returned to the shore in the Svetlana's steam launch. After breakfast, at half past twelve P. M., the Grand Duke Alexis came or shore with his deg. At about two o'clock Commodore shore with his dog. At about two o'clock Commodore Rhind, United States Navy, Mr. F. E. Gibert, President of the New York Club, and Mr. William Holly Hudson, of the same club, went on board the flagship to call on the Grand Duke Alexis. The Grand Duke being on shore they were shown over the flagship by Captain Novossitsky, executive officer, afterward calling on Admiral Boutakoff in his cabin on the gun deck, and on the officers in the ward room below. On leaving the flagship they paid visits to the commandant, and officers of the corvettes Bogatyr and Ascoid.

During the afternoon several parties of ladies, During the afternoon several parties of ladies, accompanied by gentlemen, arrived off the Russian flagship, but were not received on board, as the decks were being helystoned find washed, as is usual on Saturdays. The Grand Duke Constantine remained on board all the morning, having been on waten the night before. At a quarter past four P. M. he came on shore, accompanied by Licutenants Menschikoff, Ergomyscher and Kruger and Doctor Semirukine. In the evening Admiral Boutakoff and Flag Lieutenant Prince Steherbatoff dined with Mrs. Farragut, widow of the late Admiral, her son, Captain Farragut, of the navy, and his wife, being also present.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.

HE FIRST TRIES TO KILL HIS WIFE AND SISTER-IN-LAW.

Jonathan Primatt, a eigar maker, about sixty years of age, residing at No. 2:2 State street, Brooklyn, ender his life yesterday in a horribic manner. He had been out of work for about three weeks, and, becoming despondent, took to drinking. Yesterday morning, about eleven o'clock, he was sitting near the stove reading, and apparently sober, when sudhe sprang from the chair, seized large, heavy poker, and commenced beating his sister-in-law, Mrs. Margaretta Clark, who has been boarding with him for some time past. His wife caught hold of him to prevent him and be turned upon her and beat her about the arms and body. The two women fled in terror from the room and rushed into

women fied in terror from the room and rushed into the apartments of Mrs. Lye, on the floor below, with the blood streaming from their wounds.

The three women then locked and barricaded the door. After remaining there about fireen minutes and not hearing any noise on the upper floor they yentured out. Mrs. Primatt, finding the door of her room issueed, knocked for admittance. Gaining coanswer, however, and tearing something terrible had happened, she managed, with the assistance of her sister and Mrs. Lye, to force an entrance. A large pool of blood on the floor, which was making little red rivulets in different directions, met their view. A pool of blood on the floor, which was making little red rivilets in different directions, met their view. A stream of gore led the women behind a partition made of blankets, which divided off the bed from the main apartment. Partially lying upon the bed was Mr. Primatt, with his throat cut, the blood trickling from the bedding. Mrs. Primatt clasped the bleeding form the bedding. Mrs. Primatt clasped the bleeding form the bedding, of the Thira predict, entered the room a lew minutes after he found the husband, still in her embrace, not quite dead. An ambulance was at once sent for and the wounds of Mrs. Primatt and her sister dressed by Surgeon Otterson. An inquest was held by Coroner Simms yesterday afternoot, when a verdict was rendered in accordance with the lacts. The deceased was an Englishman by birth and had been married to his present wife about thirty years.

# FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The Stock Market Active and Irregular.

GOLD 106 1-2 A 106 3-4.

Money on Call 3 a 2 1-2 Per Cent.

THE BANK STATEMENT.

Government Bonds Steady and Railroads Irregular.

WALL STREET, SATURDAY, April 14-6 P. M The vigorous bounce to prices which yesterday's market closed with lost most of its force during the first hour of business to-day, and, with the exception of a recochet or two, finished up at three o'clock very much after the condition of a spent ball. Twice within the last ten days the bears have come to the rescue of a market which threatened a panic. Experience has demonstrated that a condition of "smash" nobody, and that bears are likely to be quite as great sufferers as bulls. A house taken down brick by brick offers a certain value in the shape of material-it is nearly worthless if blown up by gunpowder. Regarding the fabric of speculation in this light the boar party eschews explosions as at once profitless and dangerous, and wisely prefers to let things down easily. To do this the shorts have not only been compelled to cover their contracts, but to get on the long side before confidence was restored and the course of prices turned in an upward direction. Appearances to-day are that the bears have only been masquerading under the guise of horns and hide; that they are still destructively inclined, and that their chief desire is to resume their normal shape, With this purpose in view there was a strong inclina tion manifested to place so much long stock as the market would take without breaking, and the effort would probably have met with fair success had it not een for the continued weakness in Rock Island. Unfortunately the spirit which shapes the ends of specuby the reports of investigating committees nor the offering of rewards, and, consequently, neither the railto withstand any considerable offerings of shares. Be youd its own innate feebleness Rock Island received set-back in the comparative failure of the attempt to place the new issue of six per cent bonds. Of the \$8,000,000 offered only \$1,500,000 was subscribed for, at from 100 to 105. Scarcely anything better could be expected under circumstances which have tainted the property with the plague spot of Gouldism, and thereby discredited its value in the eyes of capitalists. The coal stocks failed to retain the firm prices of the morning, and fell back to yesterday's figures, under a light business. We understand that the matter of the bogus news concerning the Delaware and Hudson Company will receive examination by the Grand Jury on Monday, and that a number of Stock Exchange brokers have been summoned to give evidence. Poetically, truth is pictured as abiding at the bottom of a well, but we doubt if the Grand Jury will draw anything but empty buckets from sources within the precincts of the Stock Exchange. The greatest business of the day was done in Western Union, at figures which gradually drooped from 58% to 58%, and closed but at 1/2 better. The Atlantic and Pacific Company is still the raw head and bloody bones which frightens buyers away, although Gould is thought by many to have quietly transferred his interest to the long side of the account. The railways drooped with the rest of the market, although the foreign war news is threatening enough to give them the upward start which it was expected to do. So far it has affected gold (to the extent of 1 per cent to-day) and the prices of produce, the latter being dealt in to a greatly increased degree at advancing figures. Possibly after a reduction to order of the chaotic state which has existed in the Stock Exchange during the week the expected influence may have a chance to work its legitimate effect.

THE SALES TO-DAY. The sales of active stocks to-day aggregated 175,703 shares, which were distributed as follows:-New York Central, 5,100; Erie, 800; Lake Shore, 23,700; Northwestern, 2,760; do., preferred, 1,200; Rock Island, 27,750; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 2,900; do., preferred, 8,400; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 16,470; New 6,706; Morris and Essex, 490; Michigan Central, 6,750; Illinois Central, 1,550; Union Pacific, 125; Hanniba and St. Joseph preferred, 200; Ohio and Mississippi, 400; Panama, 160; Western Union, 65,532; Pacific

OPENING, HIGHEST AND LOWEST.

Mail, 3,400.

lowest prices of the day:	pening.	Highest.	Lowest
Pittsburgh	8636	86%	863
New York Contral	92	92%	91%
Erie		614	6
Lake Shore		48%	475
Northwestern		17%	163
Northwestern preferred		43%	423
Rock Island		91%	885
Muwaukee and St. Paul		1534	143
Mil. and St. Paul preterred		4434	423
Del., Lack, and Western		60%	623
New Jersey Central		736	73
Onto and Mississippi		334	34
Western Union		6834	. 663
Pacific Mail		17%	164

The following shows the advance and decline in the closing prices of the principal active stocks to-day a compared with those of yesterday:-

compared with those of yesterday:—
ADVANCE.—Union Pacific, ½; Himois Central, ¾;
Northwestern, ½; St. Paul, ½; Ohio and Mississippi, ½; ., C. and l. U., ½; Atlantic and Pacific, ¾.
DECLINE.—Western Union, 2½; Pacific Mail, ½; New York Central, ½; Eric, ½; Lake Shore, ½; Pittsburg, ½; Northwestern preferred, ½; New Jersey Central, ½; Rock Island, 1½; St. Paul preferred, 1½; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 2½; Hannibal and St. Joseph, ½; Delaware and Hudson, 2½; Michigan Central, ½.

CLOSING PRICES—3 P. M.

The closing prices	were:		
Pacific Mail 1074 West Union 5614 Atl & Pacific. 2234 Quicksilver 13 Outchastlyer of 19	Asket. 16% 56% 23 14 22 5 6 00 52% 80% 80% 87% 42%	C, C, C & I	24 234 634 10 20 474 394 139 915 734
Chi, M & St P. 15 C, M & St P pf 43%	1514	Del & Husson. 41%	4996

Money early in the day was easy at 3 per cent on call and dropped later to 2 %, at which figure it closed The following were the rates of exchange on New York at the undermentioned cities to-day :- Savannan, buying %, selling &; St. Louis, 1-10 premium; New Orleans, commercial 5 1-16, bank 3; Cincinnati steady, buying par, selling 1-10; Chicago, 75 premium. and Charleston, scarce, % a % premium. Foreign ex change is strong, with actual business at 186% a 4 86% for bankers' 60 days' sterling, and 4 88% s 4 88% for demand,

Gold opened at 106%, advanced to 106%, declined to 106%, rose to 106% and closed at 106%. The carrying rate was I per cent and the borrowing rates flat to 2 per cent. Gold clearings at the National Bank of

tate of New 101E.	
exchanges. ency balances. s clearances.	
CLEARING HOUSE STATEMENT. ency exchanges. ency balances. exchanges balances.	\$75,461,00 3,741,41 6,479,04 923,39
WERKLY CLEARING HOUSE STATEMEN ency balances.	439,328,18 21,026,06

The rise in gold did not affect government bonds at much as might have been expected. This is ascribed when they sympathize with all other foreign securis